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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE 2457
INFO RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE 5203
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEAORC/US CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 0821
RHMFISS/NRC WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHMCSUU/FBI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 5045
RUETIAA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD IMMEDIATE 2421
RHMCSUU/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 0072

S E C R E T STATE 075013

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/17/2019
TAGS: [AF](#) [ASEC](#) [KCRM](#) [KNNP](#) [PARM](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [BY](#) [XA](#) [ZF](#)
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON RESPONDING TO REQUEST FOR
ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL

REF: A. BUJUMBURA 000334 16-JULY-2009
[1](#)B. IIR 6 916 0040 09 15-JULY-2009
[1](#)C. BUJUMBURA 000302 02-JULY-2009

Classified By: ISN DAS Eliot Kang

[1](#)1. (U) This is an action request for Embassy Bujumbura.
Please see paragraph 3.

[1](#)2. (S//NF) BACKGROUND: Per REF A, Embassy Bujumbura agrees with Washington's assessment of the Burundian canister described in REF C. Although the canister is likely related to previous scams, post believes that due diligence requires testing of the container to see if it contains radioactive material and sees this as an opportunity for cooperation with the Burundian government at large, rather than just the intelligence service. Post has requested Washington send a team from the Department of Defense (DOD) DTK-1 Technical Collection Division to characterize, advise upon appropriate handling and disposal procedures, and if necessary provide technical guidance for destruction of the canister. This course of action would also satisfy the Burundian government's formal request for assistance contained in REF [1](#)B.

[1](#)3. (S//NF) ACTION REQUEST: Washington concurs with post's recommendation in REF A and requests post proceed with guidance it has received from Washington regarding tentative plans to host a team of specialists from DOD on August 3-7, [1](#)2009. Additionally, Washington is receptive to post's request to work with the Burundian government as a whole. Post is instructed to provide answers to the questions in paragraph 4, continue coordinating its plans with the country team, and keep Washington informed of new developments via front-channel cable.

[1](#)4. (S//REL TO ROB) FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS:

--Are there any marking or etchings visible on the container now that the basket has been removed per IIR 6 916 0040 09? If so, do they provide any numbers or words that might help with identification?

[1](#)5. (SBU) REPORTING DEADLINE: Post is requested to provide a coordinated response via front-channel cable no later than July 24, 2009.
CLINTON